

*Amendments to the Claims*

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1.-13. (cancelled).

14. (currently amended) A method of identifying potentially therapeutic anticancer compounds comprising:

(a) contacting a Transferrin Receptor Related Apoptosis Inducing Protein (TRRAIP) with amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NOS:1, 2, 3 or 8 NO: 1 with one or more test compounds; and

(b) monitoring whether said one or more test compounds binds to said TRRAIP;

(c) comparing binding between test compounds and TRRAIP to binding between TRRAIP and gambogic acid or gambogic acid-related compound thereby determining whether the one or more test compounds bind as strongly or more strongly than gambogic acid or gambogic acid-related compounds;

wherein test compounds that bind to said TRRAIP as strongly or more strongly than said gambogic acid or gambogic acid-related compound are potentially therapeutic anticancer compounds.

~~wherein compounds which bind said TRRAIP are potentially therapeutic anticancer compounds; and~~

~~wherein said monitoring of (b) comprises determining whether said one or more test compounds bind to said TRRAIP in a competitive or noncompetitive homogeneous assay and wherein said assay is a competitive assay comprising gambogic acid having a detectable label or a gambogic acid related compound having a detectable label wherein in (b) said label is detected, or~~

~~wherein said monitoring of (b) comprises determining whether said one or more test compounds bind to said TRRAIP in a competitive heterogeneous assay and wherein said competitive heterogeneous assay comprises gambogic acid having a detectable label or a gambogic acid related compound having a detectable label wherein in (b) said label is detected.~~

15.-19. (cancelled).

20. (currently amended) The method of claim 14, wherein said monitoring of (b) comprises determining whether said one or more test compounds bind to said TRRAIP in a ~~competitive or noncompetitive~~ homogeneous assay.

21. (currently amended) The method of claim 20, wherein said homogeneous assay is selected from the group consisting of a fluorescence polarization assay ~~or~~ and a radioassay.

22. (cancelled).

23. (cancelled).

24. (previously presented) The method of claim 14, wherein said TRRAIP comprises a detectable label.

25. (original) The method of claim 24, wherein said detectable label is selected from the group consisting of a fluorescent label and a radiolabel.

26.-29. (cancelled).

30. (previously presented) The method of claim 14, wherein said TRRAIP is present in cells *in vitro*.

31. (currently amended) A potentially therapeutic anticancer compound identified by the The method of claim 14, wherein said ~~potentially therapeutic anticancer~~ compound is selected from the group consisting of 1-allyl-1,3,3a,4,5,12a-hexahydro-7,13-dioxo-1,5-methano-furo[3,4-*d*]xanthene, 1-allyl-1,3,3a,4,4a,11a-hexahydro-10,12-dioxo-1,4a-methano-furo[3,4-*b*]xanthene, 1-(3-methyl-2-butenyl)-3,3-dimethyl-1,3,3a,4,5,12a-hexahydro-7,13-dioxo-1,5-methano-furo[3,4-*d*]xanthene, 1-(3-methyl-2-butenyl)-3,3-dimethyl-1,3,3a,4,4a,11a-hexahydro-10,12-dioxo-1,4a-methano-furo[3,4-*b*]xanthene, 1-(3-methyl-2-butenyl)-3,3-dimethyl-1,3,3a,4,5,10a-hexahydro-7,11-dioxo-9-phenyl-1,5-methano-furo[3,4-*i*]chromene, and 1-(3-methyl-2-butenyl)-3,3-dimethyl-1,3,3a,4,4a,9a-hexahydro-8,10-dioxo-6-phenyl-1,4a-methano-furo[3,4-*g*]chromene.

32.-46. (cancelled).

47. (currently amended) The method of claim 14, further comprising (a) contacting a cell with a TRRAIP binding test compound identified in ~~(b)~~ by the method of claim 14 and (b) monitoring apoptotic activity.

48. (new) A method of identifying potentially therapeutic anticancer compounds comprising:

(a) forming a complex with a TRRAIP of SEQ ID NO: 1 and a gambogic acid or gambogic acid-related compound;

(b) contacting the complex with one or more test compounds;

(c) monitoring the extent to which the gambogic acid or gambogic acid-related compound remains associated with the TRRAIP thereby determining whether the one or more test compounds bind as strongly or more strongly than gambogic acid or gambogic acid-related compounds;

wherein test compounds that bind as strongly or more strongly than gambogic acid or gambogic acid-related compounds are potentially therapeutic anticancer compounds.

49. (new) The method of claim 48, wherein said monitoring of (c) comprises determining whether said one or more test compounds bind to said TRRAIP in a homogeneous assay.

50. (new) The method of claim 49, wherein said homogeneous assay is selected from the group consisting of a fluorescence polarization assay and a radioassay.

51. (new) The method of claim 48, wherein said monitoring of (c) comprises determining whether said one or more test compounds bind to said TRRAIP in a heterogeneous assay.

52. (new) The method of claim 51, wherein said heterogeneous assay is selected from the group consisting of a fluorescence polarization assay and a radioassay.

53. (new) The method of claim 48, wherein said TRRAIP comprises a detectable label.

54. (new) The method of claim 53, wherein said detectable label is selected from the group consisting of a fluorescent label and a radiolabel.

55. (new) The method of claim 48, wherein said gambogic acid or said gambogic acid-related compound has a detectable label wherein in (c) said label is detected.

56. (new) The method of claim 55, wherein said detectable label is selected from the group consisting of a fluorescent label and a radiolabel.

57. (new) The method of claim 48, wherein said TRRAIP is present in cells *in vitro*.

58. (new) A potentially therapeutic anticancer compound identified by the method of claim 48, wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of:

1-allyl-1,3,3a,4,5,12a-hexahydro-7,13-dioxo-1,5-methano-furo[3,4-*d*]xanthene;

1-allyl-1,3,3a,4,4a,11a-hexahydro-10,12-dioxo-1,4a-methano-furo[3,4-*b*]xanthene;

1-(3-methyl-2-butenyl)-3,3-dimethyl-1,3,3a,4,5,12a-hexahydro-7,13-dioxo-1,5-methano-furo[3,4-*d*]xanthene;

1-(3-methyl-2-butenyl)-3,3-dimethyl-1,3,3a,4,4a,11a-hexahydro-10,12-dioxo-1,4a-methano-furo[3,4-*b*]xanthene;

1-(3-methyl-2-butenyl)-3,3-dimethyl-1,3,3a,4,5,10a-hexahydro-7,11-dioxo-9-phenyl-1,5-methano-furo[3,4-*i*]chromene; and

1-(3-methyl-2-butenyl)-3,3-dimethyl-1,3,3a,4,4a,9a-hexahydro-8,10-dioxo-6-phenyl-1,4a-methano-furo[3,4-*g*]chromene.

59. (new) The method of claim 14, further comprising (a) contacting a cell with a TRRAIP binding test compound identified by the method of claim 48 and (b) monitoring apoptotic activity.